

SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET

Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services

February, 2002

This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the Tenth Middlesex Representative District. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2001.

Residents of Tenth Middlesex Representative District

Treatment Admissions:

In FY 2001, there were 120,687 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts. Of these, 0.8% (945) reside in the Tenth Middlesex Representative District. Due to budget cuts in FY 2002, BSAS estimates that 19% (179) of Tenth Middlesex Representative District residents will not be able to access treatment services. **Please note that these statistics represent only individual admissions, and represent a figure lower than the actual number of constituents in need of treatment services.**

- In FY 2001, 73.6% of admissions from the Tenth Middlesex Representative District were male and 26.3% were female.
- Over 59.7% of admissions were between the ages of 30-49.
- 81.1% of admissions were white non-Latino, 7% were black non-Latino, 8.25% were Latino, and 0.8% were Asian and 2.6% were other racial categories.
- 66.1% of those admitted to treatment were never married, 13.2% were married, and 14.7% reported not to be married now.
- 20.7% of admissions had less than high school education, 51.3% completed high school, and 27.9% had more than high school education.
- 39.6% of those admitted to treatment were employed.
- 17.9% of those admitted were homeless.
- 11.6% of admissions had prior mental health treatment.

Substances Used in Past Year:

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as 'polydrug' or 'polysubstance' use. For example, individuals who use cocaine, crack and heroin also may report the use of either alcohol and/or marijuana.

- Table 1 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, including the prevalence of injection drug use (IDU) in the Tenth Middlesex Representative District. Injection drug users (or IDU's) are individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

Table 1 Annual Admissions by Substance Used FY 1995 – FY 2001							
Tenth Middlesex Representative District							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
FY '95	1,115	956	335	348	205	235	185
FY '96	1,098	938	372	350	205	227	172
FY '97	1,174	1,033	341	341	186	223	166
FY '98	1,033	876	271	257	126	234	184
FY '99	1,004	847	233	238	121	306	240
FY '00	1,079	907	295	228	128	295	235
FY '01	945	765	260	204	113	214	164

- Since FY 1995, residents of Tenth Middlesex Representative District reported a leveling off in alcohol and heroin use. Alcohol use decreased by 19% and heroin use by 8%.
- Between FY 1995 and FY 2001, admissions reporting marijuana use decreased by 22%, cocaine by 41%, and crack use by 44%.

Primary Substance of Use:

At admission clients also identify a “primary drug” of use which is the substance currently causing them the most problems.

- Table 2 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the Tenth Middlesex Representative District.

Table 2 Primary Drug by District and State FY 2001					
	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
District	63.1%	19.3%	8.4%	4.5%	1.3%
State	46.4%	35.9%	6.5%	3.8%	3.4%

- While heroin and crack as a primary drug of use in your Representative District was lower than the State average, alcohol, marijuana and cocaine was higher within your District.